

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A golf ball comprising:  
a substantially spherical outer surface; and  
5 a plurality of multi-lobed dimples formed on the outer surface of the ball, wherein the lobes in each dimple are positioned radially around a center of the dimple, wherein each lobe is defined by a circumferential segment wherein the circumferential segment defines a part of the perimeter of the dimple, and a prominence ratio of each multi-lobed dimple is defined by a ratio of an average of the inside radii extending from the center to troughs of the lobes to an average  
10 of outside radii extending from the center to apex points of the lobes, and wherein the ratio is less than 1.0.
2. The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the ratio is between about 0.70 and about 0.95.
- 15 3. The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the ratio is between about 0.75 and about 0.90.
4. The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the ratio is between about 0.80 and about 0.90.
5. The golf ball of claim 1, wherein curved profiles of the lobes abut each other in an  
20 uninterrupted manner such that the curved profile of one lobe continuously and smoothly extends to and abuts with the curved profile of an opposite or near-opposite lobe.
6. The golf ball of claim 1, wherein each lobe is further defined by a spoke-like ridge positioned between adjacent lobes.  
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7. The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the portions of the perimeter where the circumferential segments abut are rounded.
8. The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the multi-lobed dimples include uniform multi-lobed  
30 dimples.

9. The golf ball of claim 1, wherein each lobe further comprises a second curved profile extending across the width of the lobe.

10. The golf ball of claim 1, wherein at least some of the dimples have six lobes.

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11. The golf ball of claim 10, wherein at least some of the multi-lobed dimples are arranged in a hexagonal array, wherein one multi-lobed dimple is surrounded by six multi-lobed dimples.

12. A golf ball comprising:

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a substantially spherical outer surface; and

a plurality of multi-lobed dimples formed on the outer surface of the ball, wherein the lobes in each dimple are positioned radially around the center of the dimple, wherein each lobe is defined by a circumferential segment and wherein said circumferential segment defines a part of the perimeter of the dimple, and wherein the number of lobes for each multi-lobed dimple is the same as the number of dimples surrounding said multi-lobed dimple and wherein a prominence ratio of each multi-lobed dimple is defined by a ratio of an average of an inside radii extending from the center to troughs of the lobes to an average of an outside radii extending from the center to apex points of the lobes, and wherein the ratio is between about 0.70 and about 0.95.

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